



As the fall months begin, we review July and August as we ministered each week in churches in Indiana, Ohio, and Maryland...

INDIANA...

HOMECOMING 2015



The annual Harris Family Homecoming Concert at the Calvary Baptist Church in Connersville, Indiana, was an exciting evening of heartfelt praise and worship. The Landmark Boys from Cincinnati and Abby Howard from Connersville joined us to put a special touch on the concert. Our own worship pastor, David Goins, and his wife Morgan also helped round out the worship team. The trio - Alan, Alex, and Anthony - was better than ever, and everyone enjoyed Andrew's testimony and his "Long Black Train!" THANK YOU to all of you who attended, prayed and supported the concert. We were especially excited to see some church groups in attendance including 75 people from Hillcrest Baptist Church in Richmond, Indiana, where our friend Marty Holman is the pastor! We would love to see more groups next year for our 10th Annual Homecoming Concert. Keep watching for more details!

FAITHFUL SERVANT

One of the Indiana churches where we ministered in July was the Bentonville Christian Church. The pastor, Don Miller, was Alan's guidance counselor at Connersville Highschool. Don remembers when Alan came to him at the age of 15 and told him that he was planning to be an evangelist. Don encouraged Alan to follow God's calling, and has continued to be an encouragement to Alan by his friendship and faithful service to his own calling. They enjoyed singing a duet before Alan preached in the Sunday morning worship service.



OHIO...

LANDMARK CHURCH



One of our August stops was not far from home. The Sunday morning following our Homecoming Concert we traveled south to Cincinnati to minister at Landmark Church, where Matt Holman is the pastor. Our son Alex moved to Cincinnati in March to become the Student Pastor at Landmark. We enjoyed not only an opportunity to minister, but also to get to know Alex's new church family a little better. It's always a joy, as well, when the family gets an opportunity to minister together. We look forward to more occasions to partner with Pastor Matt and the leadership team at Landmark as they work to reach out to the people in Cincinnati. *Pictured above from left to right is: Cara Combs (Anna's sister), Anna Harris, Anthony Harris, Angie, Alan, Alex Harris, Pastor Matt Holman, Joy Holman, Rachel Perkins, Emily Perkins, and Executive Pastor Jeff Perkins.*

MARYLAND...

Calvary Baptist-Denton

Pastor Don Reynolds and his wife Nancy are the proud grandparents of our own pastor's son, Nate Reynolds! (And oh yes, our pastor John is their son as well!) Pastor Don has had a long and fruitful ministry at the Calvary Baptist Church in Denton, Maryland. It was our honor to minister there in August. We recently received an encouraging email from Bro. Don. In the email he said, *"Just want you to be assured that your labors here at Calvary Sunday were appreciated. Your message through song and from the Word of God were powerful and on target. You were a blessing to fellowship with. Your example of living by faith blesses Nancy and myself. I would be interested in you coming to be with us again as God leads us both."*



What an encouragement! We strive to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as we present songs and sermons. Many times people respond when they hear familiar truths from a different voice or perspective. Our desire in our ministry is to see the church revived and pastors encouraged. As these two elements are in place, evangelism and discipleship will increase and the church will grow. Thank you, Bro. and Mrs. Reynolds for the opportunity to minister in Denton!

The Work of an Evangelist



Ephesians 4:11-12 says, *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

There is an old saying *that the pastor comforts the afflicted and the evangelist afflicts the comforted.* Unfortunately there are some evangelists that have literally lived up to this old joke. There are times when a visiting preacher can address concerns in a way that a pastor does not have liberty to do. However, from the beginning of our ministry in 1984, we have had, among others, two foundational goals. One is to always be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we minister to God's people. The other goal is not to be known as a preacher who blows into town and stirs up dust that settles as soon as he leaves. Indeed, things need to be stirred up once in a while! But we want to see lasting results that can only come by the Word of God and its power to change lives. We have been blessed to see second and third generations of families still serving God and have been thankful that God used something we did or said to encourage them to begin walking with Him.

Earlier this year, we ministered in a church in Texas, and the man in the above photo, Johnny Pack (pictured with his wife Lorie) reminded us of a sermon that Alan had preached there almost 6-1/2 years ago. Johnny sent this encouraging email that we would like to share with you.

Bro. Alan,

What to do while you're waiting. Oct. 19, 2008

Thank you for sharing this message with us and mostly for sharing your pain with us. Your trials in life helped others through a difficult time.

In October of 2008 I had received the word that I would be laid off in January 2009. God had the perfect message for me when you preached at Aurora in 08. Heb. 4: 14-16, in the time of need. God is always right on time. Isaiah 40:31, wait on the Lord and let Him strengthen you. It was hard for me to wait, but this message showed me through God's word what I should be doing.

I was definitely in the waiting room from Oct. – Jan. not sure where my next job would be but yet stressed about what to do. You shared with us the Lord has a promise for those who wait upon Him. Your sermon gave us instructions on what to do while in the waiting room of life. Be patient, Heb. 10: 35-36, God has a will for our lives. Philippians 4: 6, ask him and leave it to him, this stress that was in my life was bigger than me, and this message directed me to the scriptures I needed to follow during this difficult time in my life. You reminded us that God does not want us to sit idle. God has a will for our life, be patient, pray, wait on Him to strengthen us and He will always be there in our time of need. He will not leave us or forsake us.

Thank you for sharing your struggles with us. We used your testimony to help direct our lives during our own difficult times. I have shared this DVD with at least six other men in our church that lost their jobs during the 2008/2009 crash.

You realized what an impact this sermon left on my life when I quoted you the name of the sermon from over six years ago. This sermon continues to help others. Alan, thanks for the miles you travel and the sacrifices you and your family make for the Lord's work. He is worth it, give Him the praise, honor and glory for it all. I pray the Lord will continue blessing your ministry.

*In Christ,
Johnny Pack
Aurora Baptist Church*

The truths mentioned in the above email are simple truths that were presented simply and sincerely. Anyone could have shared the same principles from God's Word. But we are thankful that as we follow God's call and continue going where He leads us, that we get to be channels of blessing for people like Johnny all over the world. You that faithfully pray for us and support Alan Harris Ministries financially allow us to continue to be at the right place when God has a message that He wants us to communicate to someone at just the right time. Please keep praying and giving so that we can see more and more people become faithful followers of Jesus Christ!

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Thank You!**
